



SCOTT M. MATHESON
Governor

OIL, GAS, AND MINING BOARD

GORDON E. HARMSTON
Executive Director,
NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE OF UTAH
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS, AND MINING
1588 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116
(801) 533-5771

I. DANIEL STEWART
Chairman

CHARLES R. HENDERSON
JOHN L. BELL
THADIS W. BOX
C. RAY JUVELIN

CLEON B. FEIGHT
Director

February 14, 1979

FILE

Mr. Dale E. Hirshfeld
Mining/Geologist, Northwest Area
Interpace Corporation
Mica, Washington 99023

Re: Pleasantview Mine variance
ACT/057/003

Dear Mr. Hirshfeld:

The Division staff has been reviewing the mining plan variance sought by Interpace for the Pleasantview Mine. The plan addresses most of the areas very adequately. Some questions still remain as to why the variance to Rule M-10(12) is being sought.

Rule M-10(1) says that "the operator shall abandon the area in a condition which is capable of supporting a post-mining use that is compatible with probable land uses". If the ultimate land use is to be suburban residential, how far in the future is this use going to be? The proposed mine life is listed as 25 years plus. If this area is to be developed by that time, Interpace might consider reclaiming the area to that use when reclamation commences. If so, please advise us of the method and techniques for doing so. If this is not possible, the Division would like to see the reclamation and seeding to natural conditions. In so doing, Interpace would need to seed with a diverse mixture of grasses, shrubs, forbs, and some trees if possible.

A question was raised as to whether the revegetation test plots had been put in. If so, Jim Smith, the Division's Reclamation Soils Specialist and myself would like to see the work that has been done on the plots, as well as visit the rest of the operation.

From my understanding the mine is, at present, still inaccessible. We would like to have you join us on an on-site inspection of the operation, at your convenience.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact this division.

Sincerely,

THOMAS J. SUCHOSKI
RECLAMATION HYDROLOGIST

TJS/sp